

Executive Proclamation

State of South Dakota

Office of the Governor

Whereas, Cardiovascular disease is the nation's leading cause of death with direct and indirect costs estimated to be \$475.3 billion in 2009; and,

Whereas, Cardiovascular disease accounts for over 35 percent of all deaths nationwide with nearly 2,400 Americans dying of cardiovascular disease each day, an average of one death every 37 seconds; and,

Whereas, An estimated 785,000 people in the U.S. will have a new coronary attack, an estimated 470,000 people nationwide will have a recurrent attack, and an additional 195,000 "silent" coronary attacks will go undiagnosed this year; and,

Whereas, More than 1,700 individuals die from cardiovascular disease in South Dakota each year; and,

Whereas, The research is clear that there are tools available to increase survival rates from cardiovascular disease; and,

Whereas, Efforts of the American Heart Association encourage citizens to help save lives by calling 9-1-1 if symptoms occur, become trained in CPR, and encourage comprehensive automated external defibrillator (AED) programs in their communities; and,

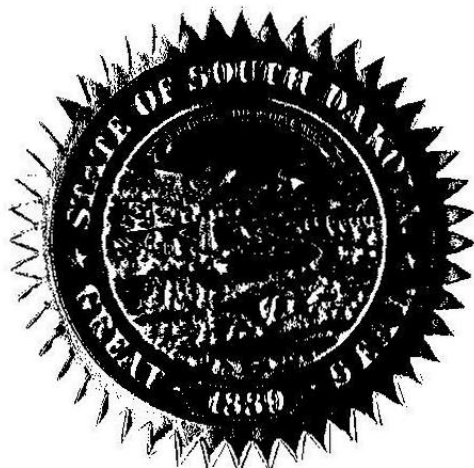
Whereas, The American Heart Association is celebrating February 2009 as American Heart Month, and promoting education and awareness by encouraging citizens to learn the warning signs of heart attack and stroke:


Now, Therefore, I, M. Michael Rounds, Governor of the State of South Dakota, do hereby proclaim February 2009 as

AMERICAN HEART MONTH


in South Dakota, and I urge our citizens to recognize the critical importance of tools and skills that will increase survival rates from cardiac arrest. By incorporating these tools into aggressive programs, we can save thousands of lives each year.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the State of South Dakota, in Pierre, the Capital City, this Twenty-second Day of January in the Year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Nine.




M. Michael Rounds, Governor

Attest:


Chris Nelson, Secretary of State